

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

Dear Secretary Portich,

This is a public comment for docket number 12-375. I wrote because I would like to know how can I get cheaper phone rates here? At it has a 15 minute phone call for \$1. I can't make collect calls because the prison, wants my family to change their phone plan to one the prison offers.

It's like the Doc. has a monopoly over the phone system. I'm being subjected to pay higher fees to make local calls. It's even higher to call long distant. I ask for your help in this situation.

Thank you for your time.

Leon Robinson

CP8870

1100 Pike st.

Huntingdon PA 16654

No. of Copies rec'd 0
LIST/ABODE

Processing # 12-375

MAR 21 2013

3-11-13

Dear Secretary Datch,

FCC Mail Room

I am writing as a public comment to Docket # WC-12-375. It cost me \$9.50 a call to talk to my sister in Flossmoor Ill, \$10.50 to call my family in Morrow, GA, and \$6.00 to call my mother and my children just a few minutes away in Pittsburgh, PA.

My father has prostate cancer and my mother has very bad arthritis where she is bed-ridden and I am very worried that I may not be able to hear their voices while on their death beds. God willing they pull through! I only make close to \$40.00 a month working here in prison and my family is not in the position to send me enough money to maintain any form of consistency in calls, so we are limited to once a month if we are lucky. Please intervene on our behalf. We are asking for; No connection fees, no Commission for the jails, 3¢ a minute on the AT&T plan that gives you 15 minutes for 1 dollar. We would also be satisfied with the same Rates given to the PA. prisoners while they were being housed in the Michigan Prisons.

Could you also ask for at least 1 free phone call per day for each inmate for us guys who simply can't afford calls.

I thank you in advance for your time and efforts and pray you are able to gain us some form of relief.

Respectfully Yours,

Richard H. Estes

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List ABCDE _____

Ray Kolarik #294016
Lakeland Correctional Facility
141 First Street
Coldwater, Mich. 49036

Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street SW
Room Tw-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

*This is a public comment for
WC Docket Number 12-375*

3/14/13

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing this letter in an effort to give input on the FCC's current investigation on Prison Telephone rates.

I am a prisoner within the Mich. Dept. of Corrections (MDOC). My institutional work assignment as a janitorial porter is my only source of income. This work assignment pays me approximately \$20.00 per month. After I purchase my monthly hygiene items, I'm left with less than \$10.00.

The MDOC is currently under contract with PCS as it's prisoner phone service provider. They allow us to establish phone credit accounts in which you can never put less than \$10.00 on the phone account and the price of a 15 minute call is roughly \$3.00. With these prices and my pay rate, I can only put money on my phone account on an average of every other month and then can only make 3 sometimes 4 calls over the next 2 months until I can add some more funds. I've endured dropped calls where the money that I was charged is not refunded.

My family don't have the means to support me while I'm incarcerated and I try to stay in touch as much as possible. At one time the MDOC was under contract with a company called EMBARQ. The prices were more reasonable (0.10 per min.). If rates could be more reasonable, it would allow myself and others to better stay in touch with our families. And still make money because more people would be able to call and more often.

Thank you in advance for both your time and efforts in looking into this matter.

SINCERELY, *Raymond Kolarik #294016*

cc:

Raymond Kolarik

1 of 1 Copies rec'd
US ABCDE

MARCH 12TH, 2013

TO: MARLENE H. DORTCH, SECRETARY
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 12TH STREET, SW; ROOM TW-B204
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

FROM: GEORGE VAN VALKENBURGH #526761
% PALMER CORRECTIONAL CENTER
P.O. BOX 919
PALMER ALASKA 99645-0919

DEAR SECRETARY DORTCH,

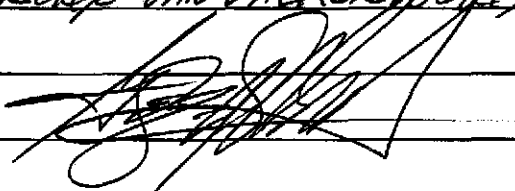
THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR WC DOCKET NUMBER 12-375

I AM AN INMATE AT THE PALMER CORRECTIONAL CENTER.
I'VE BEEN USING THE EVERCOM/SECURE PHONE SYSTEM
FOR 4 YEARS NOW CALLING 4 DIFFERENT STATES, FROM
ALASKA. I CALL NEW YORK, DETROIT MICHIGAN, BOSTON
MASSACHUSETTS, AND SOUTH CAROLINA. I SPEND \$450.00
PER MONTH ON PHONE CALLS. THAT'S 5400.00 PER YEAR.
TO ALSO BREAK THIS DOWN, TO MAKE A 15 MINUTE CALLS
IT COSTS 4.93 JUST TO DIAL THE NUMBER, AND .96 CENTS
PER MINUTE FOR 15 MINUTES, EQUALS 19.33 PER CALL.
AND WHEN A FAMILY MEMBER ADDS MONEY TO THE
PHONE ACCOUNT. IF THAT FAMILY MEMBER USE'S
A CREDIT CARD, LETS SAY THEY ADD 100.00 TO THE
ACCOUNT. THAT DOES NOT MEAN YOU CAN USE

A 100.00 ON PHONE CALLS, THAT IS DUE TO THE REASON OF THE PHONE COMPANY CHARGES 7.00 TO YOUR ACCOUNT BECAUSE A CREDIT CARD WAS USED. THEY DON'T TELL YOU THIS. UNLESS YOU QUESTION THEM AS TO WHY YOUR SOMETIMES SPENT ON THE ACCOUNT, OVER A 4 YEAR PERIOD THAT 7.00 PER MONTH EQUALS 336.00.

I STRONGLY URGE THE F.C.C. TO PROPOSE NEW RULES AND RATES IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE PHONE RATES AND CHARGES FOR INMATES WITHIN THE PRISON SYSTEM.

THANK YOU
RESPECTFULLY

GEORGE VAN VALKENBURGH


Received 03/14/13

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

Russell Jay Reger
TDCJ-CID #747783
French M. Robertson Unit.
12071 FM 3522
Abilene, Texas 79601-8749
(325)548-9035
www.free-rusty-reger.com

March 14th, 2013

Hon. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW; Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WC Docket Number 12-375 (Public Comment)

Dear Director Dortch,

This is a public comment for WC Docket Number 12-375. Each year my family and friends spend more than \$1,200.00 to receive 20 minute phone calls from myself. They prepay into an outside account, and I place commissary funds into a prepaid internal account. Each of my 20 minute calls average between \$4.60 to \$5.10 per call. If I call collect, my family and friends must pay an additional fee of \$2.49 per month. These are all "intra-state" calls. I can not afford to make "inter-state" calls, because those run close to \$10.00 per 20-minute call.

My family and friends are also burdened with further expenses, because they must use "land-line" phone systems. While my current prison phone system has claimed to have opened their service up to post-paid cell phones, they refuse to sign up these accounts. I've had seven persons attempt to sign up their cell phones and none have had any luck, to date. Some other inmates have had luck doing so, but it has taken up to 10 straight hours waiting on the phone and repeated attempts. This is a great hardship.

It is another hardship for inmates to make calls, via voice recognition software. Loud prison dayroom background noise plays on this system. If we get through and there's any type of background static on the phone, it cuts the call off thinking we're trying to make three-way calls. I usually make up to 12 to 15 calls per month and at least 3 are cut off in this manner.

The Texas system was started in June of 2009. I've been incarcerated since 1996. The phone system was a true God send to inmates. It changed the way our guards and administrators treated inmates. It helped us get emergency medical or health issues resolved in a timely manner. It has helped me grow closer in my relationships with family and friends. However, it has cost a lot of money. This money could have went towards my furthered education endeavors. To help with my exoneration efforts. This cost is high, it is an unneeded hardship.

Thank You, Sincerely,


Rusty Reger
PARALEGAL

RJR:file

0
Mr. Charles Reid
11/13/2012

Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room
March 5, 2013

Marlene H Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary Marlene Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." The reason for this letter is because I heard something can be done about the current P.A. prisons phone system. I'm not usually optimistic about this sort of thing, but it effects me so directly that I decided my voice should be part of this petition.

First and foremost, I would like to say that my daughter's mother is hearing impaired, which means she hears **nothing** over the phone. It's frustrating and sad. My 6 year old daughter is getting better at translating, but it should not be that way. **T.T.Y is a free service** that caters to the deaf, hard of hearing, here and abroad, but for whatever reason it's not accessible to P.A. prisoners.

Also, connection fees are the ultimate killer. It takes half your money up front, which realistically obligates you to stay on the line with whomever happens to pick up the phone on the other side. For example: It's Mother's Day, but your father picks up she steps out. There's is no such thing as "I'll call back," unless your willing to pay another connection fee. Also, everyone suffers from poor signals and dropped calls, but more so us inmates; because of the prisons phone security system and again, because of the connection fees you better hope it drops towards the end of your allotted 15 minutes.

Secretary Dortch, most of my family doesn't live in Pennsylvania, so most of my calls are out of state; which means double the rates and double the connection fee. [\$5.¹⁵ in state, \$9.²⁰ in New York and New Jersey]. My family even tried to setup an account with the current company (GTL) thinking it would be cheaper, but instead it was even more expensive. Sadly communication with my family, and my children are at this point virtually **Non-Existent**.

For a long time now my mentality has been "it is what it is," but please allow me to close this letter with the experience I had when many of us were transferred to out of State prisons, because of the overcrowding. I for one landed a few states away in the Muskegon Correctional Facility [M.C.F] in Muskegon, Michigan. I couldn't understand how I can be all the way up there and even further away from home, but the phone rates are so darn affordable. [^{5.12} a minute from the first to the last, ^{\$1.80} for the allotted 15 minute call] and Because there was **No Connection Fees**, it allowed me to make several calls through out the day. For example: I would call my daughter before she heads for kindergarten [5min. ^{\$1.60}] after school [5 min. ^{\$1.60}], and give her a kiss good night [5 min. ^{\$1.60}]. It was awesome!! **I haven't felt that close to my family in years.**

Unfortunately I don't remember the name of the phone service up there in Michigan, but my eyes have definitely been open so to speak and I see no reason why we (Pennsylvania Inmates) can not enjoy reasonable phone rates and services such as **T.T.Y** for the hearing impaired from a similar and just phone service provider. I thank you in advance for time and consideration.

We All Appreciate Your Attention
In This Matter
Thank You

Alex Garcia

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Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary of the F.C.C.
445 12th Street Sw; Room Tw-B204
Washington, DC 20554

MAR 21 2013

Mar 21 2013

FCC Mail Room 3 - 13 - 03

Dear Secretary Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." The following is a list of 5 things to help inmates keep in contact with their families. We are requesting:

1. Cheaper phone rates
2. A 10 minute free call for all inmates daily
3. No connection fees
4. No commissions
5. AT&T has a 15 minute phone call service for \$1.00

We would greatly appreciate it if you can make these changes for us, so we can have better communication with our children and family members. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

MR. ALEXANDER FRASER DOC# A-K4789

Dear Secretary Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." the following is a list of 5 things to help inmates keep in contact with their families. We are requesting:

- 1) Cheaper phone rates
- 2) A 10 minute free call for all Inmates Daily
- 3) No Connection fees
- 4) No Commissions
- 5) At&t has a 15 minute phone call for \$1.⁰⁰

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MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

We would greatly appreciate it if you can make these changes for us, so we can have better communication with our children and family members. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Emile Lee

DOC# 1405227

1100 Pike Street
Huntingdon, Pa 16654

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List ABOVE

Dear Secretary Dortch,

"This is a Public Comment for WC-Docket number 12-375." the following is a list of 5 things to help inmates keep in contact with their families. We are requesting:

- 1) Cheaper phone rates
- 2) A 10 minute free call for all Inmates Daily
- 3) No Connection fees
- 4) No Commissions
- 5) At&t has a 15 minute phone call for \$1.⁰⁰

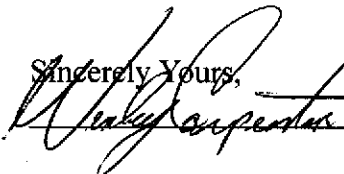
Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

We would greatly appreciate it if you can make these changes for us, so we can have better communication with our children and family members. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

 DOC# HH-7456

1100 Pike Street
Huntingdon, Pa 16654

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MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

TO: MARLENE H. DORTCH, SECRETARY
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th St, SW; Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

March 10th 2013
Sunday 7:15pm

FROM: GUS HOWZE, #201728
LAKELAND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
141 FIRST ST,
COLDWATER, MI 49036

Re: MICHIGAN Dept of Corrections; telephone charges; Campaign for Prison Phone Justice

Dear Secretary Dortch, Hello I am writing to you and the FCC in relation to an article I saw in Prison Legal News, and your Campaign for Prison Phone Justice. Here in Michigan the MDOC has created a monopoly and have eliminated and or ignored bids for phone services from local companies willing to charge inmates as low as .14 to .5¢ per minute for a 15 min phone call. The MDOC and PCS charges roughly \$3.95 for a collect call and some for Prepaid account collect calls, locally our family and friends on their regular service is considerably less, so if you don't have PCS you can not talk to anyone and if the public does not get on PCS's prepaid collect call account, you cannot talk to them! Inmates pay about \$3.20-\$4.00 per call on prepaid debit service. This is a hard ship to me, the MDOC has taken away bonus pay for all workers, you work on certain jobs for .17¢ an hour (6 hrs a day = \$1.02 a day 5 days a week) others pay .84¢ a day, others on half day details -.56¢ a day! Here in Michigan inmates are now required to pay a 6% sales tax, an income tax, and a personal property tax, commissary is purchased out-of-state at an inflated 40% markup, so it is very difficult to stay in touch with loved ones when you cannot afford to!!

When calls were .10¢ a min in 2009-2011, frequency of calls were regular, even though it was still at a greater rate than local companies were charging. My sister Lisa Howze paid the prepaid collect call service in April of 2012, I used the service only two times. a year later I tried to call in Feb 2013 and the automated system informed my sister that she had to reapply to PCS so we could speak!? I never used the remaining calls from the original service my sister entered in 2012! Extortion!!

Number of Copies rec'd 0
LBI/ASCOE

free calling would be an excellent service provided to inmates! I could stay in contact with family and friends in other states also as well as right here in Michigan. I know your office and Mr. Genochowski exposed some companies for "price cramming" back in 2009. michis violating the states Telecommunications Act MCL 484.2101 (2). (a), (b), (c) as well as violating the Michigan Antitrust Reform Act; monopolies; MCL 445.773 and MCL 484.2505 - End USER of Telecommunications providers; switching to another provider authorization; definitions. Sec. 505 (1): "an end user (inmates/public) of a telecommunications provider shall not be switched to another provider without the authorization of the end user." Ameritech was the original provider, who sold the license to Emborg / Sprint, who now gives over to PCS. we the public never authorized change over for higher costs to ourselves and our family and friends with higher collect call billing. In 2005 - 2009 calls & collect calls were \$8.00! and the MDOC was not concerned with "Special equipment funds" or "cell phone detection devices"! They (the MDOC) had to find away to recoup all of that lost revenue when rates were dropped to 10¢ per minute. In comes PCS, but local companies were willing to add "cell phone detection" and still charge inmates 12¢ per min. The MDOC turned that contract down, it had no "meat to sink their teeth into". PCS struck a deal, the MDOC promised to lower rates after the cell phone detection system was purchased and installed, this has not occurred, rates are still high, the MDOC have \$16.9 million dollars at the end of the fiscal year, they used some of the funds to purchase tasers, this was not a part of the original contract. The new Senate appropriations bill, signed by Gov. ~~Snyder~~ Snyder in Oct 2012 now has a provision that states the new amendment covers "personal protection / special equipment" i.e.; tasers, protective vests etc.! Breach of contract and fraud! Under MCL 791.205 The Director of the MDOC appoints a warden at each facility who will be responsible for the enforcement of security, safety and the compliance of dept policy is followed. No policy is implemented where his duty is funded by inmates or their families through extorted funds!!

I know that the county jails are also charging anywhere from \$8.00 - \$15.00 per call for inmates also! Everyone is taking advantage of us and our family and friends. The FCC has to implement regulations to stop "price cramming", extortion and modern day usury. It is occurring everywhere, not just in Michigan. I plead and implore your office to investigate these allegations, find them true and circumvent the further exploitation of inmates and their family and friends by the Department of Corrections, local jails, and from state government who cares nothing for the people they are sworn to represent.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

Gus Howze #201728
Lakeland Correctional Facility
141 First St
Coldwater Michigan 49036

Exhibit 5P - Pricing

The Contractor will have full responsibility for project implementation. Items, which are not produced or provided directly, shall be marked as such. Prices shall be inclusive of any and all costs associated with full implementation, which may include but is not limited to applicable, such cost of manufacture, packing, handling loading/unloading, removal of debris, transportation, inside delivery, installation, training, maintenance, documentation, insurance, and any other item that could be interpreted as the overall cost to procurement.

The firm fixed price for performing services in accordance with the provisions and requirements stated in this Contract is provided below. This price is fixed/firm throughout the life of the contract.

Collect/Pre-paid Collect Calls:

Call Type	Per Call Surcharge (Firm Fixed Price)	Rate per minute (Firm fixed Price)
Local	\$0	\$0.0393
Intralata	\$0	\$0.0393
Intrastate	\$0	\$0.0393
Interstate	\$0	\$0.0393

Debit/Debit Cards:

Call Type	Per Call Surcharge (Firm Fixed Price)	Rate per minute (Firm fixed Price)
Local	\$0	\$0.0343
Intralata	\$0	\$0.0343
Intrastate	\$0	\$0.0343
Interstate	\$0	\$0.0343
International	\$0	\$0.4995

Additional Costs:

The above rates are inclusive of **all fees** (except for a credit card fee). There will be no fees or taxes allowed other than those identified below:

Allowable Additional Costs not included in the Firm Fixed Per Minute Rates include:

- Federal and local taxes and Universal Service Fund may be passed through, however they shall not exceed the actual cost to the provider
- Credit Card Transaction Fee
 - Vendors charging a Credit Card Transaction Fee must provide a **single fee** that will be applicable for all funding methods (IVR, Live Operator, Kiosk, Website, etc.) in all amounts.

Single Credit Card Transaction Fee
\$3.95

- Other than the Allowable Additional Costs disclosed by the Contractor in Exhibit 5P, no additional fee/cost or billing statement fee or other expenses may be charged by the vendor's, subcontractor(s), or by a vendor's third-party agent.
- In the event kiosks or alternative payment channels are implemented, other than the Allowable Additional Costs disclosed by the Contractor in Exhibit 5P, no additional taxes or other expenses may be charged by another vendor's subcontractor, or vendor's third-party alternative payment channel provider, such as TouchPay, JPay, ICSolutions (ICS), V-Connect (Value Added Communications / VAC), EZCard, or any other third-party account funding channel or company.

Larry Mearns #413055
141 First Street
Coldwater, Michigan 49036

3/13/2013

To: Marlene M. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, SE; Room TW-8204
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

RE: THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR
WC DOCKET NUMBER--12-375

Dear Secretary Dortch;

We accept your Bond and Oath of office that you hold.

1. Costs and Experiences PrePaid Account's.

It's Costing so Much for a 15-Min Call, When Most of the time the calls get dropped. We should ~~have~~ been Put a Stop to this Highway Robbery...

2. Call Charges.

10¢ Inside the States, 32¢ Out side the States. Phone Company's to Day, Have a One Rate Fee; and you can call and talk all day for less than what we Pay and being Charge...

3. Dropped Calls.

"Yes" We have to repay Every time and it happen on a Regular, Pretty Much doing all Calls...

4. Call Frequency.

Some times it's "good and some time it's not so "good" It's always Something Wrong with these Phone Here, That's why it be so many Dropped Calls...

5. It Would Help Deeply, But Foremost a Cheaper "Rate" Would be better, We both know that the Free Calls are not going to last very long...

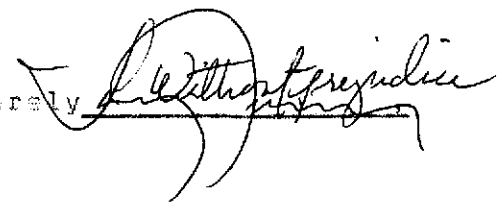
6. Disabilities Access.

"Yes" Same Rates; Far as we, Here at L.C.F. Concern, We have not heard any Rates dropped for any M.D.C.C. Facility.

Once again we here at L.C.F. accept your Bond and Oath of office that you hold, And we appreciate all that your doing.

THANK YOU,

Sincerely



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MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

Lakeland Correctional Facility 141 First Street Coldwater, Michigan 49036

March 13, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW; Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

In re: *This is a public comment for WC Docket Number 12-375*

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Thank you, for allowing input regarding personal problems with the prison phone system:

The overcharging of twenty cents a minute, which initially was to be eighteen cents a minute.

Once the other party accepts the call, the voice machine continues into the fifteen-minute phone usage.

In today's telecommunication market, cellular customers pay much less and are awarded free minutes, from their provider's and other telecommunication services, such as free texting, voice mail, etc;

If you have any suggestions or questions please do not hesitate to contact me, thank you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Taylor
227122

Rec'd of Copies rec'd
Ltr ABCDE

Kenneth Taylor #227122
Lakeland Correctional Facility
141 First Street
Coldwater, Mich. 49036

Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013

FCC Mail Room

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street SW
Room Tw-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

*This is a public comment for
WC Docket Number 12-375*

3/14/13

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing this letter in an effort to give input on the FCC's current investigation on Prison Telephone rates.

I am a prisoner within the Mich. Dept. of Corrections (MDOC). While I sometimes get financial support from my famil, my institutional work assignment as a janitorial porter is my primary source of income. This work assignment pays me approximately \$20.00 per month. After I purchase my monthly hygiene items, I'm left with less that \$10.00.

The MDOC is currently under contract with PCS as it's prisoner phone service provider. They allow us to establish phone debit accounts in which you can never put less than \$10.00 on the phone account and the price of a 15 minute call is roughly \$3.00. If I call collect, it cost more than that. At one time the MDOC was under contract with a company called EMBARQ. The prices were more reasonable (0.10 per min.). They changed and went to a more expensive company a couple of years ago in an effort to offset some of the institutional security expenses. But in reality, these expenses are being passed on to our families by way of higher phone bills, after they've already paid taxes to pay for such measures.

My family don't have the means to support me while I'm incarcerated. I try to stay in touch as much as possible and they try to help me as much as possible. But if rates could be more reasonable, it would allow myself and others to better stay in touch with our families. And companies would still make money because more people would be able to call and more often.

Thank you in advance for both your time and efforts in looking into this matter.

SINCERELY, *Kenneth Taylor*
227122

MAR 21 2013 3/14/13

This is a Public Comment Room Docket # 12-375
 Dear Secretary Ortel,

I am writing this letter cause I think the price of prison phone rates should go down cause they are very costly!
 Cost? Experience:

1. How much do you &/or your family pay in prison phone bills each month? about \$150 or more a month

What has been your experience with collect calls, debit calls, &/or pre-paid phone accounts? It seems like you have to put money on the account every couple days

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 List ASODE

Call Charges:

2. How much do you or your family pay in connections fees (the 1st minute) & the per minute rates for phone calls? btw \$2.30 - 2.50 &
 like 20-30 something cent each minute
 Do you &/or your family have to pay

extra fees to make or accept calls, such as cost to set up, add money to or cancel an account?

yes

2. Dropped calls:

3. How often are calls dropped or disconnected? About every 3-4 calls. Does it happen on a regular basis?

yes. Do you have to pay another connection fee if the call is dropped + you call right back? yes.
Free calls:

4. The FCC is seeking comments on whether they should force a certain amount of Free calling time for each prisoner each month.

How would that impact you, your family, and your children?

The would be great cause I could talk to my son and family more without spending a lot of money.

Disability Access:

5. Not sure if they have this

Received & Inspected

MAR 21 2013 ALEX GARCIA BS-2464.

FCC Mail Room 100 PIKE STREET.

HUNTINGDON PA. 16654-1111

MARLENE M. DORTCH.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

445 12TH STREET SW ROOM TW-B204.

WASHINGTON, DC 20554.

MARCH 5 2013

RE: WC DOCKET NUMBER 12-345

DEAR SECRETARY MARLENE DORTCH,

THE REASON FOR THIS LETTER IS BECAUSE I HEAR SOMETHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT THE CURRENT PA. PRISON'S PHONE SYSTEM. IM NOT USUALLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THIS SORT OF THING BUT IT EFFECTS ME SO DIRECTLY THAT I DECIDED MY VOICE SHOULD BE PART OF THIS PETITION.

FIRST AND FOREMOST I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT MY DAUGHTER'S MOTHER IS HEARING IMPAIRED WHICH MEANS SHE HEARS NOTHING OVER PHONE. IT'S FRUSTRATING AND SAD. MY 6 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER IS GETTING BET AT TRANSLATING BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE THAT WAY. T.T.Y IS A FREE SERVICE THAT CATER'S TO THE DEAF; HARD OF HEARING HERE AND ABROAD BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON IS NOT ACCESSIBLE TO PA. PRISONERS.

ALSO CONNECTION FEES ARE THE ULTIMATE KILLER. IT TAKES HALF OF YOUR MONEY UP FRONT WHICH REALISTICALLY OBLIGATE YOU TO STAY ON THE ~~NUM~~ LINE WITH WHOMEVER HAPPENS TO PICK UP THE PHONE ON THE OTHER SIDE. FOR EXAMPLE: IT'S MOTHER'S DAY BUT YOUR FATHER PICKS UP SHE STEPPED OUT. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS "I'LL CALL BACK" UNLESS YOU'RE WILLING TO PAY ANOTHER CONNECTION FEE. ALSO EVERYONE SUFFERS FROM POOR SIGNALS AND DROPPED CALLS BUT ME SO VS INMATES BECAUSE OF THE PRISON'S PHONE SECURITY SYSTEM AND AGAIN BECAUSE OF THE CONNECTION FEES YOU BETTER HOPE IT DROPS TOWARD THE END OF YOUR ALLOTTED 15 MINUTES.

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List ABOVE

SECRETARY DORTCH MOST OF ~~MY FAMILY DO NOT~~ LIVE IN PENNSYLVANIA SO MOST OF MY CALLS ARE OUT OF STATE WHICH MEANS DOUBLE THE RATES - DOUBLE THE CONNECTION FEE. [\$.15 IN STATE \$.20 N.Y. & N.J.] MY FAMILY EVEN TRIED TO SET UP AN ACCOUNT WITH THE CURRENT COMPANY THINKING IT WOULD BE CHEAPER BUT INSTEAD IT WAS EVEN MORE EXPENSIVE. SADLY COMMUNICATION WITH MY FAMILY. MY CHILDREN ~~AT~~ AT THIS POINT IS VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT.

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FOR A LONG TIME NOW MY MENTALITY HAS BEEN
"IT IS WHAT IT IS" BUT PLEASE ALLOW ME CLOSE THIS LETTER WITH THE
EXPERIENCE I HAD WHEN MANY OF US WERE TRANSFERED TO OUT OF
STATE PRISONS BECAUSE OF THE OVERCROWDING.
I FOR ONE LANDED A FEW STATES AWAY IN THE MUSKEGON CORRECTIONAL
FACILITY [M.C.F.] IN MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN. I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND
HOW I CAN BE ALL THE WAY UP THERE AND EVEN FURTHER AWAY FROM
HOME BUT THE PHONE RATES SO DARN AFFORDABLE. [2¢ A MINUTE
~~MIN~~ FROM THE FIRST TO THE LAST. 1.80 FOR THE ALLOTTED 15 MINUTE
CALL AND BECAUSE THERE WAS NO CONNECTION FEE IT ALLOWED
ME TO MAKE SEVERAL CALLS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. FOR EXAMPLE
I WOULD CALL MY DAUGHTER BEFORE SHE HEADS FOR KINDERGARTEN
[5 min. 1.60] AFTER SCHOOL [5 min. 60¢] AND GIVE HER A
NIGHT GOODNIGHT [5 min. 60¢]. IT WAS AWESOME!
I HAVEN'T FELT THAT CLOSE TO MY FAMILY IN YEARS

UNFORTUNATELY I DON'T REMEMBER THE NAME OF
THE PHONE SERVICE UP THERE IN MICHIGAN BUT MY EYES HAVE
DEFINITELY BEEN OPEN SO TO SPEAK AND I SEE NO REASON WHY
WE PENNSYLVANIA INMATES CAN NOT ENJOY REASONABLE PHONE
RATES AND ~~OTHER~~ SERVICES SUCH AS T.T.Y FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED
FROM A SIMILAR AND JUST PHONE SERVICE PROVIDER.

WE ALL APPRECIATE YOUR ATTENTION
IN THIS MATTER.

THANK YOU

ALEX GARCIA

